

Major Science and Technology Players Join Efforts to Develop Robust and Cost-efficient Mobile Communication Services

How can the mobile Internet be used productively in challenging environments such as high-speed trains and cars? How to design cost-efficient communication services that allow for perceived continuous services – despite intermittent connectivity and changing network characteristics? These questions are being investigated by the European research project CHIANTI (**Challenged Internet Access Network Technology Infrastructure**) that has started on January 1st 2008. A consortium of leading research institutions and enterprises with considerable experience in the field has met today in Newcastle, UK, to develop Internet technologies for robust and cost-efficient communication in challenging network environments, e.g., for allowing passengers in high-speed trains to use the mobile Internet more productively at reduced cost.

Internet access in planes and WLAN hotspots in high-speed trains are just a few examples of the increasing popularity of mobile Internet access in public transport. Even though it is today technically feasible to provide some form of connectivity in many scenarios, service quality and cost-efficiency are often considered to be contradicting goals – because ubiquitous and permanent connectivity are difficult to achieve and may require significant investments. In the past, this has created difficulties for service providers to develop and operate such services successfully – the history of UMTS-based mobile data communication services in Europe is a prominent example for that.

The CHIANTI project will improve disconnection and disruption tolerance for mobile user communications relying on the unmodified core Internet architecture. Instead of inventing a completely new approach, it is a key goal for the CHIANTI architecture to co-exist with and benefit from the presence of existing and emerging “always best connected” solutions. CHIANTI is a two-years "Small or medium-scale focused research project" (STREP) within the ICT initiative of the 7th EU framework program and is carried out by the following partners: Technologiezentrum Informatik (TZI) at Universität Bremen (coordinator), Nomad Digital Limited, Helsinki University of Technology TKK, and Lysatiq GmbH.



Further information: <http://www.chianti-ict.org/>

CHIANTI

Technologiezentrum Informatik (TZI, www.tzi.org) is a renowned German research institute for computer science and electrical engineering at Universität Bremen, focusing on research and development of innovative computing technologies in cooperation with companies and public organizations.



Nomad Digital Limited (www.uknomad.com), which is a privately held company in Newcastle in England, designs, builds, owns and operates specialist networks which enable high-speed data communication with moving vehicles such as railway trains.



The Helsinki University of Technology (TKK, www.tkk.fi) founded in 1849 is the largest technical university in Finland. It carries out technological and scientific research on topics ranging from communications, nanotechnology and radio technology to bio-adaptive materials and brain activity.



Lysatiq GmbH (www.lysatiq.de), based in Berlin/Germany, is an independent company specialized in IP communication and content distribution software for challenged and mobile networks, thereby enabling its customers to offer highly innovative and competitive IP communication products and services.